



Box 1809
Swift Current, SK S9H 4J8
Phone Toll Free: 1-877-321-9200
Phone: (306) 778-9200
Fax: (306) 773-8011

Directions Newsletter Regular Meeting of the Board – February 2017

Delegation: Eastend School Students “Raising Hope Gala”

The Eastend School WE Day group attended the meeting to talk about their WE Day experiences and fundraising initiatives. They highlighted their Raising Hope Gala, where they made a goal to raise \$30,000 to adopt a room at the Ronald McDonald House in Saskatoon. The students were inspired after a tour of the Ronald McDonald House when they travelled to Saskatoon for a WE Day event last year. The event was held in Eastend with a variety of entertainment and food, as well as live and silent auctions. They surpassed their goal by far and raised over \$65,000. The Board would like to congratulate the Eastend School WE Day group of students and staff advisors on an incredibly successful fundraiser, and acknowledge the community for an impressive showing of support!

Distance Education Monitoring Report

Shelby Budd, Principal of the Chinook Cyber School

The goal of the Chinook Cyber School is to deliver courses to students, while developing personal responsibility for students as lifelong, independent learners. The Motto is “No Limits!”

Chinook sends out interest surveys every year for students to complete, and the Cyber School works with the schools to decide what classes to deliver, including new classes. The Cyber school works in partnership with Chinook schools to provide students with programming to meet high school requirements, elective courses to enhance learning opportunities, a collaborative online learning environment by providing the opportunity and the means for communication between the student and the online instructor, and dynamic courses that take advantage of the online environment through differentiated instruction and assessment.

In 2015-2016, the Chinook Cyber School offered a total of 59 courses, through a variety of methods:

- **Asynchronous** – online delivery of courses using the learning management system (LMS) Moodle. These courses are semesterized.
- **Synchronous** – video delivery of courses using video conferencing units. These classes are scheduled into the student’s timetable at a specific time each day. All synchronous classes are supported with a Moodle course as well. These courses are semesterized. This delivery style is being reviewed for its effectiveness.
- **CSI (Continuous Student Intake)** – asynchronous delivery of courses using Moodle. Students may begin the course at any time during the school year and have up to one full calendar year to complete the course. Courses close over the summer. Students may

apply for extension, though it is not recommended. CSI is not the recommended enrolment option for most students.

Highlights:

- Enrolment increased to push numbers just over 1000 seats up by approximately 200.
- 9.3 FTE – 5 full-time; 10 part-time in 9 schools.
- Staffing increase of 7.9-9.3 from previous year – course development, course improvement.
- 1002 seats were occupied in 2015-16, which is 201 more seats than the previous year. This includes seats in each class, so individual students would be counted for each class they are in.

Celebrations:

- 96% completion rate, which has been consistent for 3 years now.
- Teacher Assistance Teams (TAT) support for students have worked well.
- Co-hosts of provincial Distance Education Bootcamp for educators.
- Presentations at Rural Congress and Canadian School Board Association conference.
- Continued interest from outside our division, provincially, nationally and internationally to have access to our courses for resources and development purposes.
- Strong partnership with Horizon, Northern Light and Good Spirit school divisions.
- Visits to schools are always well-received.
- Moved to hosted server – Lambda Solutions.
- Future goals include continuing to increase presence in schools, formative assessment, course design and online reading comprehension, a big focus on online design, building positive relationships and incorporation of Google with Moodle. New courses include: Information Processing 10, Life Trans30/IP10 double credit course, Earth Science 30, Sports Psychology 20, ELA A30 Hockey Theme, Environmental Science 20, Crop Production 10, Construction 10.

Chinook School Division Strategic Plan

Sharon Mayall, Curriculum Coordinator and Liam Choo-Foo, Director of Education

In the Board's leadership role for the Division, they have committed to an annual strategic planning process. As a result, they have created and approved a school division strategic plan for 2017-19, giving direction to our schools as they do their planning for the 2017-18 year. These plans are also aligned with the provincial education sector plan.

Within the 2017-18 Division Strategic Plan, the Board has highlighted the following areas for Chinook to focus on:

- By June 2018, high impact writing instructional strategies will be implemented.
- By June 2019, strategies and structures will be researched and systematically implemented across the division to engage the 21st Century Learner.

The long-term outcomes for the overall Division Strategic Plan are:

- By June 2020, 90% of students will be meeting or exceeding Chinook expectations in reading, writing and math.
- By 2019, 100% of SCC's will have implemented a Community Engagement and Alignment Plan.
- By 2020, Chinook's 3-year average graduation rate will be 90% and the 5-year average graduation rate will be 93%.
- By 2020, 90% of Chinook students exiting kindergarten will score within the appropriate range in the cognitive domain, language and communication domains as measured by the Early Years Evaluation (EYE).
- By June 2019, the Board will have implemented strategies that will annually ensure efficiency of budget, compliance to policy and legislation, as well as alignment to the ESSP.

The provincial education sector plan was developed collaboratively with public school divisions, Catholic school divisions, Conseil des écoles francsaskoises, First Nations, Métis, Ministry of Education, school boards and students. The goal of the strategic plan is to enhance the experience and achievement of all Saskatchewan students using a Student First approach to focus our work on what matters most...the student.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: February 12-18, 2017 “Great Teachers/Staff = Engaged Students”

To recognize and celebrate the valuable work of all education professionals in our schools, the Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed February 12–18, 2017 as Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. This year’s theme is "Great Teachers/Staff = Engaged Students". The Saskatchewan Association of School Community Councils (SASC) promotes the week across the province to publicly acknowledge the important role of teachers and school staff in students' education.

The Chinook School Division Board would like to acknowledge and thank our extraordinary team of teachers and staff for their caring service and dedication to our students, schools, families and communities. We appreciate that Chinook teachers and staff work hard to put students first, and create positive and supportive learning environments for all children. Working with students directly and in support roles, they ensure that the school day is safe, engaging, and filled with great learning experiences.

2017 marks the 30th year that Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week will be celebrated in Saskatchewan. Help us recognize teachers and staff in our schools this week!

Chinook School Division Annual Meeting: March 13, 2017

The Chinook School Division Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 13, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Chinook Education Centre in Swift Current.

Kindergarten Registration for 2017-2018

Kindergarten Registration Week for all Chinook Schools is March 7-10, 2017. Please check chinooksd.ca or contact your local school for specific dates and to register your child.

- Kindergarten eligibility is age 5 by December 31, 2017.
 - Parents must bring proof of child's birth date (Birth Certificate) AND Sask Health Card.
- On Tuesday, March 7, there will be a common registration night at Irwin School for all Swift Current city schools (Irwin, École Centennial, Central and Fairview), starting at 7:00pm.

Call for Nominations: By-Election for Subdivision 4

By-Election for Subdivision 4: APRIL 12, 2017

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Chinook Education Centre, at your local Urban Municipal office, or on the Election page of our Division website.

Nominations will be received now until March 8, 2017 at 4:00pm.

BOARD MEMBER: Chinook School Division No. 211

Subdivision 4* - One Position (Schools: Tompkins, Gull Lake, Wymark)

Nominations for Subdivision 4 must be submitted to Chinook School Division. Acceptable methods of submission are listed on our website (chinooksd.ca/Board/Election).

For further information, call 306-778-9200 or toll free 1-877-321-9200, or email electioninfo@chinooksd.ca.